

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

MISSION: To assist eligible individuals with disabilities to prepare for and obtain employment and increase their independence.

Vocational Rehabilitation (Voc Rehab) services are provided through the Division of Rehabilitation Services (DRS), the Division of Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired (DSBVI) and the Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

The Vocational Rehabilitation program assists eligible individuals with disabilities to obtain employment.

Eligibility depends on:

1) The presence of a physical or mental impairment, which constitutes a substantial impediment to employment.

2) The individual requires vocational rehabilitation services to become gainfully employed.

Eligible individuals work in partnership with their vocational rehabilitation counselors to assess their rehabilitation needs, set vocational goals, and develop an Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE) that outlines the steps and resources for meeting their goals.

A variety of services are available to assist individuals according to their personal needs and objectives. Services may include counseling & guidance, medical services and treatment, personal adjustment training, vocational training, assistive technology, job placement, follow-up, and other services needed to enable individuals to complete their Individual Plan for Employment.

Support Services are available to vocational rehabilitation consumers and counselors. These include:

1) Employer Assistance

Technical assistance is available for Utah employers for sensitivity training, information about accommodations, assistive technology and disability management.

2) Employment Assistance

Employment services are provided in partnership with Department of Workforce Services through the Choose to Work Utah Project, through employment specialists provide services to vocational rehabilitation counselors, DWS counselors, employers, and Voc Rehab consumers.

Services may include:

- labor market information
- job leads
- job seeking & survival skills
- direct job placement
- job club
- job counseling
- follow-up services

3) Vocational Evaluation

Services are offered to help individuals identify their vocational interests and abilities as well as providing career information to enable them to make realistic employment choices.

4) Supported Employment

Services are provided to individuals with the most significant disabilities to facilitate their entry into competitive employment. The VR program provides funding for specialists to locate jobs in competitive employment settings. Long-term support is transferred to other funding sources when the individual has stable employment.

5) Assistive Technology

Services are provided to individuals who need technology to achieve their vocational goals. Services include assessment, modification, and the purchase of adaptive devices and equipment.

For more information: <http://www.usor.utah.gov> or contact
The Vocational Rehabilitation office nearest you—in the State Government phone book blue pages.